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## Resolution 1963-17-21 Accelerated Public Works Program

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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## **RESOLUTION NO. 15**

### **PACIFIC SOUTHWEST WATER PLAN**

Whereas, the Secretary of the Interior has prepared a report on the Pacific Southwest Water Plan designed to solve the acute water problem brought about by the demand far exceeding the supply for the waters of the Colorado river and other sources in that area, and

Whereas, there is a vital need for fish, wildlife and recreation which are absolutely dependent upon sufficient water, and

Whereas, the value of water used for fish, wildlife and recreational purposes far exceeds the value of the same water for irrigation and all other purposes except municipal and industrial use, and

Whereas, the fish and wildlife appendix of the Pacific Southwest Water Plan proposes a moderate amount of the total water supply for fish and wildlife installations,

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners strongly recommends that sufficient water for fish, wildlife and recreation be provided by the Secretary of Interior and Congress in resolving the problem of the allocation of the water of the Lower Colorado river.

Be it further resolved that copies of this resolution be sent to the Secretary of the Interior, Governors of Arizona, California, Nevada, New Mexico and Utah and Chairmen of the Senate and House Committees on Interior and Insular Affairs.

## **RESOLUTION NO. 16**

### **PUBLIC LAND LAW REVIEW COMMISSION**

Whereas, the establishment of a Public Land Law Review Commission has been proposed for the purpose of studying laws and procedures relating to the administration of public lands of the United States; and,

Whereas, the proposed study would encompass the entire public domain of the United States and reservations, except Indian reservations, created from it as well as lands permanently or temporarily withdrawn, reserved, or withheld from private appropriation and disposal; and,

Whereas, the public lands are the concern and responsibility of all citizens of the United States; now,

Therefore be it resolved, that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners hereby expresses these convictions with respect to the proposed commission and its functions:

1. An impartial and objective study of public land laws could be beneficial and in the national interest;
2. The study should concern itself with needed changes in public land laws, policies, and procedures and not become involved with altering the current statutes of existing parks, refuges, or areas withdrawn for recreational or other purposes;
3. The study should develop distinct definitions of responsibilities within which agencies of the executive branch of government can administer effectively the resources within the concepts of conservation;
4. The study should be directed by a bi-partisan commission composed of congressional and citizen members fairly representative of geographical areas and various public lands interest, including fish and wildlife and recreation. An advisory group should be representative of all user interests without domination by any; and,

Be it further resolved that this organization is of the opinion that consideration of important proposals such as the Wilderness Bill, multiple use of public lands, modernization of mining laws, and others should not be suspended to await possible results of a public land law review and implementation thereof.

## **RESOLUTION NO. 17**

### **ACCELERATED PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAM**

Whereas, \$6,000,000 has been made available for grants-in-aid to state game, fish and conservation departments under the Federal Aid to Fish and Wildlife programs from the supplemental appropriation for Accelerated Public Works, and

Whereas, these state fish, game and conservation departments made good, prompt and worthwhile use of like grants provided in the original appropriation for this purpose and are developing sound projects for use of the supplemental appropriation with like promptness, and

Whereas, the Area Redevelopment Administration of the Department of Commerce now proposes to close out the program on September 13 without allowing the states reasonable time to enter their requests for allocations of funds to their projects, and

Whereas, the proposed action appears to be abrupt and arbitrary and not required or authorized by the Accelerated Public Works Act.

Therefore, be it resolved that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners hereby strongly urges that the Department of Commerce holds the period for programming open until November 1, 1963, so that the states may have reasonable opportunity to utilize funds on worthwhile undertakings and in an orderly manner, and

Be it further resolved that copies of this resolution be wired to the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of the Interior.

## **RESOLUTION NO. 18**

### **APPRECIATION OF COURTESIES**

Whereas, the 53rd annual convention of this organization has been memorable and outstanding; and

Whereas, in large part the success of this convention has been due to the excellence of arrangements and high quality of presentations;